(d) if so, whether work on the projects of reaching agreements on border disputes have been worked out and initiatives taken; and

(e) if so, whether after agreements reached, India is hopeful of speedy border settlement between two Countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (e) In the Declaration on Principles for Relations and Comprehensive Cooperation issued on June 23, 2003 during Prime Minister's visit to China, India and China agreed that pending an ultimate boundary settlement, the two countries would work together to maintain peace and tranquillity in their border areas and continue to implement the agreements signed for this purpose. India and China also agreed to each appoint Special Representative to explore from the political perspective of the overall bilateral relationship the framework of a boundary settlement. The National security Adviser has been appointed the Special Representative from the Indian side. China has appointed its Executive Vice Foreign Minister as his counterpart.

Both India and China have agreed to qualitatively enhancing the bilateral relationship at all levels and in all areas while addressing differences through peaceful means in a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable manner.

Nation-wide strike by workers

1274. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the working class went on a nation-wide strike on the 21st May, 2003;

(b) if so, the details of the demand raised by the workers.

(c) whether Government offered effective measures to redress the grievances of the striking workers in order to avert strike;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main demands raised by the Trade Union were the following:

- Halt to privatisation of profit making and potentially viable public sector undertakings.
- No change in the labour laws in favour of the employers and against the interest of the workers.
- Immediate enactment of comprehensive legislation for agricultural workers.
- No to policies leading to severe aggravation of joblessness and unemployment.
- Widen comprehensive social security schemes for all, including workers in unorganised sector.
- Restoration of quantitative restrictions on imports.
- Amendment of Payment of Bonus Act by removing all ceilings.
- Restroration of 12% interest rate on P.F. deposit.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. With a view to redress the grievances of the striking workers and avert the strike, conciliation proceedings were held by the Regional Labour Commissioners (Central). Besides this, the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) held a meeting with the representatives of the Central Trade Union Organisations on 19.5.2003. Hon'ble Labour Minister also met the representatives of the unions and discussed their Charter of Demands with them.

(e) Does not arise.

Vocational training to women and girls in Rajasthan

1275. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate General of Employment and Training is providing Vocational Training to women and girls in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof, vocation-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and